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House of Representatives

The House was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Monday, April 16, 2007, at 2 p.m.

Senate

THURSDAY, APRIL 12, 2007

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable BENJAMIN L. CARDIN, a Senator from the State of Maryland.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Lord of humanity, forgive our foolish ways. We have tried to enjoy freedom without duty and have attempted to receive forgiveness without true repentance. Forgive us. We have received without gratitude and without giving in return. Forgive us. We have sought for victory without wisdom or sacrifice. Show us the folly of our ways. Transform our contrition into exemplary living for Your glory.

Today, bless our Senators as they labor for You and country. Create in them hearts fit to be filled with Your presence and minds ready to think Your thoughts. Go before them to show the way.

We pray in Your merciful Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable BENJAMIN L. CARDIN led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication

to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. BYRD).

The legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, April 12, 2007.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable BENJAMIN L. CARDIN, a Senator from the State of Maryland, to perform the duties of the Chair.

ROBERT C. BYRD,
President pro tempore.

Mr. CARDIN thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, this morning there will be a period of 60 minutes for morning business. The majority will control the first 30 minutes and the Republicans the second 30 minutes.

Following morning business, the Senate will resume the motion to proceed to S. 372, the Intelligence authorization bill, and vote soon thereafter on a motion to invoke cloture on the motion to proceed. I have been advised that the chairman of the Intelligence Committee, Senator ROCKEFELLER, will be on the floor and will speak prior to the vote.

Later today, I will have more to say about the schedule for the remainder of

this week. A lot will depend on what happens in the motion to proceed on the Intelligence bill.

FIRST 100 DAYS

Mr. REID. Mr. President, last November, the call for change in Washington rang out from coast to coast. The Presiding Officer was one of the results of that historic vote on November 7, which has been good for the people of the State of Maryland and for the people of this country. The American people called for us to put partisanship aside in pursuit of common ground, to end the culture of corruption, to cast away the rubber stamp, and, most importantly, to change the course in Iraq. This Congress has heard that call. As we reach our 100th day, we are well on our way to delivering a government as good and honest as the people it serves.

From the very first day, we knew all our progress would depend on renewing the people's faith in the integrity of Congress. And just as an aside, Mr. President, I would note that while I am not much of a poll watcher, it was brought to my attention earlier this week that the polls showed the American people are much more supportive of the Congress than they were just a few months ago. A lot of that is as a result of what we have been able to do here.

Our first order of business was passing the toughest lobbying ethics reform legislation in the Nation's history, and we have done that. We voted to give working Americans a much deserved and long overdue raise in the

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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